



Media Contact:

Roger Quintanilla, Communications Deputy

Email: roger.quintanilla@lacity.org

Phone: 213-473-7012

The City of Los Angeles Proclaims the Launch of AAPI LA Day

May 3, 2022

For Immediate Release

Los Angeles – Today, Councilmember John Lee, alongside the Los Angeles Mayor's Office, launched AAPI LA Day, an effort on behalf of the City of Los Angeles to increase outreach and amplify the voices of the AAPI community.

"The last few years have brought in so many changes for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community," said Councilmember John Lee. "I have been proud to witness the rise of these cultures into the mainstream but have also been frustrated at the increased discrimination towards the community. The AAPI LA Initiative is our opportunity to raise awareness on the issues and challenges our communities face."

AAPI LA's overarching focus is to give a voice to a community that has been historically misrepresented and divided by language and cultural differences. By bringing together thought-leaders, city leaders, businesses, and organizations, AAPI LA will raise awareness on concerns that impact the AAPI community, including those focused on inclusion, discrimination, and anti-Asian xenophobia. It also aims to increase access to resources to the AAPI community by creating greater cross collaboration among nonprofits and for-profits that support the AAPI community.

"Los Angeles is a city of belonging and proud home to people from all over the world," said Mayor Eric Garcetti. "We stand strong against bigotry and discrimination, and will do everything possible to put a stop to the rise in hate crimes directed against our Asian Asian American and Pacific Islander neighbors. Everyone belongs here, and everyone deserves to feel safe in their city."

"I am so proud to join my fellow City leaders to officially proclaim May 3rd as AAPI LA Day," said Councilmember Raman. "If current events have taught us anything, it is not to take these moments for granted. They are more than just symbolic – they are a commitment to an ethos and a promise to honor our history, but be better than our past. AAPI LA Day is a commitment from the City of Los Angeles to do just that."

AAPI LA Day PAGE TWO

The Asian American Pacific Islander community comprises 16% of the city's demographics and the Los Angeles area is home to the largest population of Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Indonesian, Korean, Sri Lankan, and Thai people outside of their respective countries.

To see all of the leaders and organizations and events under the AAPI LA initiative, please visit https://aapila.org/

## ####

Los Angeles City Councilmember John Lee represents the Twelfth Council District in the Northwest San Fernando Valley which includes the communities of Northridge, Chatsworth, Granada Hills, North Hills West, West Hills, Porter Ranch, and Sherwood Forest.